



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 12** HLS 23RS 217
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

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| Date: May 17, 2023 | 8:48 AM | Author: NELSON |
| Dept./Agy.: Education | | |
| Subject: Promotion of students with reading deficiencies | | Analyst: Julie Silva |

STUDENTS RE INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Prohibits promotion to the fourth grade of certain students whose reading deficiencies have not been remedied by the end of the third grade
 Proposed legislation provides that if a student is determined to have a reading deficiency that is not remedied by the end of the third grade as demonstrated by the student scoring at the lowest achievement level in reading on the literacy screener administered pursuant to R.S. 17:24.9, such student shall be given two additional opportunities to score a higher achievement level prior to the beginning of the next school year. If the student does not score above the lowest achievement level in reading, proposed legislation prohibits promotion to the fourth grade; however, prior to retention in the third grade, the student shall be screened for dyslexia as defined in R.S. 17:7(11) and if determined to have dyslexia may be promoted. Third grade students retained pursuant to the proposed legislation shall be provided intensive instructional services. Effective beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

| EXPENDITURES | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| State Gen. Fd. | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | SEE BELOW | |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Ded./Other | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Local Funds | <u>\$0</u> | INCREASE | INCREASE | INCREASE | INCREASE | <u>\$0</u> |
| Annual Total | | | | | | |
| REVENUES | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
| State Gen. Fd. | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Ded./Other | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Local Funds | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
| Annual Total | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Beginning in FY 25, there will likely be increased costs to school districts to provide intensive instructional services, progress monitoring measures, and supports for third grade students who are retained. These costs are indeterminable, but may be significant in some cases as while R.S. 17:24.10 currently provides for progress monitoring and literacy interventions and supports for students reading below grade level, some supports suggested in the proposed legislation include reduced student-teacher ratios and lengthening the school year, which would increase costs significantly. Beginning in FY 26 there will be an increased workload to local school districts to adjust classroom and teacher assignments to account for potential high levels of retention of third grade students.

Total state costs are indeterminable; however, such a program would require an additional year of instruction for all students retained. The end-of-year reading assessment required by R.S. 17:24.9 will first be administered in the 2022-23 school year; however, in Spring 2022, approximately 22% (10,895) of third-grade students who took the LEAP 2025 English Language Arts Assessment scored Unsatisfactory. Given the criteria for good-cause exemptions, estimates for the number of students who would be retained and funded for an additional year of study are unavailable.

Proposed legislation requires no specific action by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE); however, the department reports that beginning in FY 24 they will require \$105,658 to create one (1) Education Program Consultant 3 position (\$72,000 salary and \$32,400 related benefits), as well as \$1,258 in annual operating expenses (\$1,108 travel and \$150 supplies) to support systems and leaders in the implementation of supports for students reading below grade level. The LDE assumes an annual increase of 4% for staff salaries and benefits and a 5% annual increase for operating expenditures.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

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| Senate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H} <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H} | House <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} | |
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Evan Brasseaux
 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer